



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND
914 CHARLES MORRIS CT SE
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20398-5540

REFER TO:

COMSCINST 4060.4A
N4
28 May 1999

COMSC INSTRUCTION 4060.4A

Subj: UNITED SEAMEN'S SERVICE (USS)

Ref: (a) DOD Directive 1330.16 of 23 Feb 83

(D)

1. Purpose. To define the scope of the Military Sealift Command (MSC) responsibilities to the USS in overseas areas.

2. Cancellation. COMSCINST 4060.4.

3. Background

a. Reference (a) establishes DOD policy to facilitate the accomplishment of the USS mission in areas where U.S. military support operations are a significant activity by cooperating with and assisting the USS in providing facilities, supplies and services for U.S. merchant seamen.

b. The USS establishes clubs primarily for use of U.S. seamen at various port locations around the world. It is DOD policy to assist the USS in providing services in foreign areas to merchant seamen engaged in support of the U.S. armed forces. Such assistance includes providing facilities, supplies and services. However, unless the law specifically permits an item or service to be supplied without charge, USS must reimburse the Government for all items or services provided.

c. In accordance with reference (a), requests for the establishment and support of USS club buildings and recreational areas in overseas locations will be forwarded to COMSC for comment and to ASD(FM&P) for approval. In those overseas areas where military support has been approved by appropriate DOD and military authority, the military commander of the base on which the USS club is situated, or if not located on U.S. Government property, a nearby U.S. Uniformed Services Commander is authorized to furnish supplies and services to USS in accordance with the policies and guidelines of reference (a). Additionally, these military commanders are responsible for review of

28 May 1999

facilities operated and services rendered by USS to ensure compliance with any existing local support agreement(s), memoranda of understanding, status of forces or other agreements with the host nation, and military regulations governing an installation in which a USS facility may be located.

4. Policy

a. Excess office space (including space for recreational activities for seamen), warehousing, wharfage and means of communications may be supplied without charge.

b. In accordance with reference (a), logistics support rendered by U.S. Government agencies to the USS is provided only when economic conditions or locations do not permit support from the local economy and commercial importation costs are prohibitive.

c. Support agreements and memoranda of understanding are not restricted to only those clubs actually located on DOD installations. If military logistics support is provided, a memorandum of understanding will be negotiated between USS and the providing activity.

d. Air transportation provided for USS employees between CONUS and overseas areas, or within overseas areas, shall be limited to that travel which provides direct service to the Armed Forces and shall be covered specifically in a memorandum of understanding which is operative in the case. Further, such air transportation will be limited to locations where commercial transportation is not available, e.g., Diego Garcia, for regularly scheduled changes of personnel and for emergency repatriation. In such instances, the local MSC commander will be the inviting commander and MSC will fund the cost. Since this authorization represents an additional cost to MSC overhead, any MSC commander contemplating incurring air travel costs under this directive shall provide a forecast of such costs in advance of each fiscal year. Amendments to such forecasts may be made and will be handled on a case-by-case basis by COMSC.

5. Responsibilities

a. MSC Headquarters (N4)

(1) Official liaison and point of contact within DOD for handling USS matters.

(2) Host periodic meetings with the USS to discuss policy and resolve problems.

b. MSC Commanders/Commanding Officers

(1) Render advice to the USS and local military commanders in determining the amount of DOD support required to maintain a club.

(2) Assist, as necessary, in drafting and reviewing memoranda of understanding of logistical support agreements between local military commanders and local USS club directors.

(3) Assist in promoting an efficient and harmonious relationship between USS and the local military commander.

(4) Participate as an observer in any inspection of a USS club by a local military commander when invited by the inspecting officials or by the USS.

(5) Forward to COMSC, with a full report of facts and background, any disputes, disagreements of other actions that cannot be resolved at the local level.

Distribution:

COMSCINST 5000.19

List I (Case A, B, C)

SNDL 41B (MSC Area Commanders)

41C (NFAF East/West)

41D (MSC Offices)

41E (APMC)

41L (COMPSRONs)